

Remarks

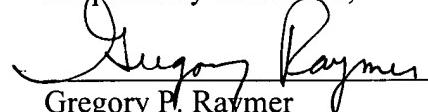
With respect to the rejection of claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10-12, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Patent 3,623,611 in view of the Dianorm GMBH brochure, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims herewith.

Claims 8-9, 13, and 15-17 have been rewritten so as to no longer depend upon a rejected base claim, and are therefore considered to no longer be objectionable. Claim 39 has been indicated as being allowed. Therefore, all remaining claims are considered to be in a form allowable according to the previous Office Action.

It is believed that the present case is now in condition for allowance, and such action by the Examiner is earnestly solicited.

Date: 12/23/03

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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